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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND
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Resumed thirty-second session
31 August-18 September 1992
Agenda item 9

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS RESUMED THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Sally E. MOSS (Bahamas)

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997

Programme 6. Elimination of apartheid

1. At its 33rd and 34th meetings, on 10 September, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 6 (Elimination of apartheid) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/47/6 (Prog. 6)).

Discussion

2. A number of delegations raised questions about whether the objectives contained in proposed paragraphs 6.26 (a) and (c) to (f) were justified by the relevant mandates, as referred to in the proposed paragraph 6.25.

3. A number of delegations expressed the view that the words "a new, non-racial and democratic South Africa" at the end of the proposed title of subprogramme 1, were not justified at the present stage.

4. A number of delegations proposed that the words "through peaceful means" proposed for insertion in proposed new paragraph 6.3 should not be inserted and that the words "peacefully" and "peaceful" should be deleted from proposed paragraphs 6.13 and 6.19 respectively.

5. The Committee noted with concern that the proposed revisions had not been reviewed by the Special Committee against Apartheid.

Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Committee noted that the decision of the Administrative Committee on Coordination taken in April 1991, which is reflected in proposed paragraph 6.34, did not constitute a legislative mandate.

7. The Committee recommended approval of the revisions to programme 6 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, with the following modifications:

[(a) At the end of proposed paragraph 6.3 (c), insert "including[, if and when necessary,] mobilization of international action against apartheid";]

(b) Retain the first sentence of proposed paragraph 6.4;

[(c) In proposed paragraph 6.13, before the last sentence insert "The Special Committee will also be responsible for mobilizing[, if and when necessary,] international action against apartheid";]

(d) In proposed paragraph 6.14, third sentence, delete the phrase "to be the focal point" and insert "its programme of work";

(e) In proposed paragraph 6.16 and throughout the text, change the titles of subprogrammes 1 and 3 to read as follows:

(i) "Subprogramme 1. Monitoring and coordination of international action against apartheid and in support of political processes leading to a new, non-racial and democratic South Africa";

(ii) "Subprogramme 3. Publicity against apartheid";

(f) Subparagraph 6.36 (e) should read "(e) Ensuring the necessary coordination of information and promotional activities of the United Nations system relating to apartheid with regard to and in South Africa;"

[(g) Insert a new subparagraph, 6.36 (g), reading "Resuming and promoting[, if and when necessary,] the international campaign against apartheid".]

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Rapporteur: Sally E. MOSS (Bahamas)

II. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Programme 7. Disarmament

1. At its 34th meeting, on 10 September 1992, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 7 (Disarmament) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/47/6 (Prog. 7)).

Discussion

2. A number of delegations believed that the text of the proposed new paragraph (7.9) of programme 7 needed to be substantially revised. One delegation questioned the need for adding the paragraph to the text of the revisions to this programme.

Conclusions and recommendations

3. The Committee recommended the approval of the revisions to programme 7 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, with the following modification:

(a) In the proposed paragraph 7.9:

(i) In the second sentence, after the word "issues", replace "that" with "which may";

(ii) Replace the third sentence with the following: "This would require appropriate adjustments in the work of the Department of Political Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat with a view to promoting the role of the Organization in the field of international security, arms control and disarmament, taking into account the Declaration of the Summit Meeting of the Security Council of 31 January 1992, as appropriate";

(b) In old paragraph 7.42, add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to establish and maintain at United Nations Headquarters a Register of Conventional Arms.

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Addendum

Rapporteur: Sally E. MOSS (Bahamas)

II. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Programme 11. Overall issues and policies, including coordination

1. At its 40th meeting, on 15 September 1992, the Committee considered the question of revisions to programme 11 (Overall issues and policies, including coordination) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/47/6 (Prog. 12)), on the basis of a conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/1992/CRP.4).

Discussion

2. A number of delegations recognized the difficulties faced by the Secretariat in proposing revisions to programme 11 at the present juncture, in view of the ongoing reviews mentioned in the conference room paper and the direct implications that the outcome of those reviews would have on the content of the programme.

3. A number of delegations considered that revisions to programme 11 could have been submitted, and expressed their concern that the submission of revisions in 1993 would add to the workload of the Committee, since it would mean a simultaneous review of the revisions and of the related section of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

4. A number of delegations emphasized the important role that programme 11 played in ensuring effective coordination of the activities of the United Nations and the organizations of the United Nations system in the economic and social areas. They stressed that revisions to programme 11 would also have implications for the content of various other programmes of the medium-term plan in those areas.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. The Committee took note of the proposals made by the Secretariat in document E/AC.51/1992/CRP.4.

6. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General submit revisions to programme 11 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session through the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.